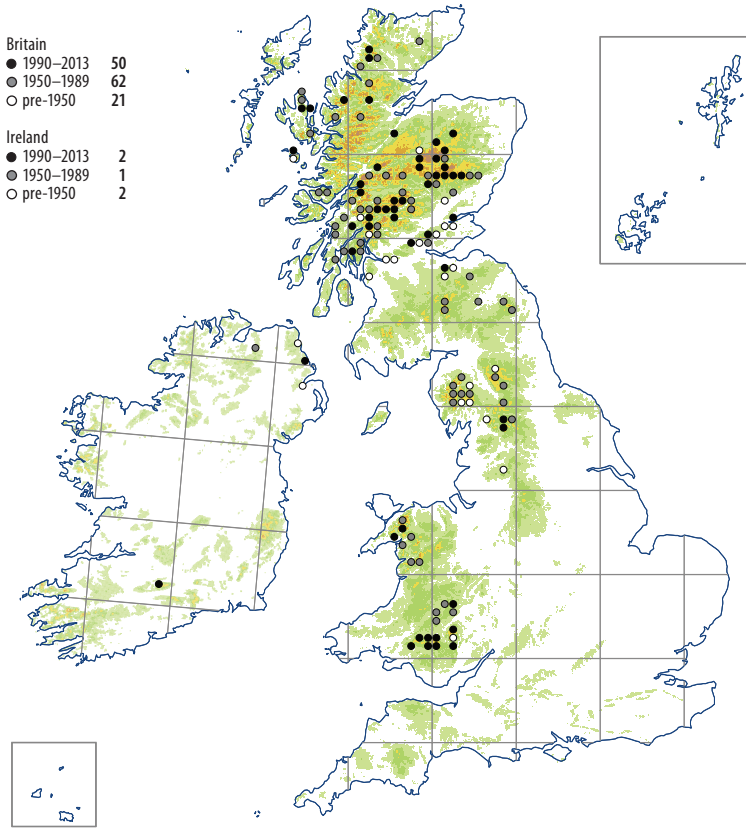


Encalypta ciliata



A local species of dry or periodically damp shaded crevices or faces of calcareous montane cliffs, often on accumulations of soil, growing with other upland calcicoles such as *Asplenium viride*, *Anoetangium aestivum*, *Bartramia ithyphylla*, *Mnium marginatum*, *M. stellare*, *Pohlia cruda* and *Tortella tortuosa*. Rock types include limestone, calcareous schist, basalt, volcanic tuff, and other basic igneous rocks, less often sandstone. More rarely, it also occurs in ravines and gills on Carboniferous Limestone, especially in northern England, growing on thin soil over sheltered rocks and in shaded crevices on rock walls in habitats favoured by *Orthothecium intricatum* and *Plagiopus oederianus*. Always in small quantity and seemingly indifferent to aspect, it is more tolerant of shade than our other species of *Encalypta*. In continental Europe it grows on earthy banks in woodland on soil that may be mildly acid. Altitudinal range: 130–1000 m.

The high proportion of older records suggests a decline, and the trend in recent recording also tends to support this. However it is often present in small quantity and is easily missed in the field. Some of its sites are in areas that have been under-recorded in recent years, and it would be unsafe to conclude that there has been a substantial decline.

Autoicous; capsules are abundant, mature in summer.

Circumpolar Boreal-montane. Northern and montane parts of Europe, from Iceland and northern Scandinavia southwards to the mountains of southern Europe, reaching Sicily and Greece. Turkey, Caucasus, Iran, N, C and E Asia, Kashmir, Himalaya, New Guinea, Japan, N, C and S America (Andes to Patagonia), Hawaii. Ethiopia, a few localities in C and S Africa. Australia (Victoria).

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